

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—COUNTY TAXES—GENERAL FUND

H. J. R. No. 3

Proposing an amendment to Section 9, Article VIII, Constitution of the State of Texas, to provide that counties may put all county taxes into one general fund, without regard to the source or purpose of each tax.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 9, Article VIII, Constitution of the State of Texas, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 9. The State tax on property, exclusive of the tax necessary to pay the public debt, and of the taxes provided for the benefit of the public free schools, shall never exceed Thirty-five Cents (35¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation; and no county, city or town shall levy a tax rate in excess of Eighty Cents (80¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation in any one (1) year for general fund, permanent improvement fund, road and bridge fund and jury fund purposes; provided further that at the time the Commissioners Court meets to levy the annual tax rate for each county it shall levy whatever tax rate may be needed for the four (4) constitutional purposes; namely, general fund, permanent improvement fund, road and bridge fund and jury fund so long as the Court does not impair any outstanding bonds or other obligations and so long as the total of the foregoing tax levies does not exceed Eighty Cents (80¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation in any one (1) year. Once the Court has levied the annual tax rate, the same shall remain in force and effect during that taxable year; and the Legislature may also authorize an additional annual ad valorem tax to be levied and collected for the further maintenance of the public roads; provided, that a majority of the qualified property taxpaying voters of the county voting at an election to be held for that purpose shall vote such tax, not to exceed Fifteen Cents (15¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation of the property subject to taxation in such county. Any county may put all tax money collected by the county into one general fund, without regard to the purpose or source of each tax. And the Legislature may pass local laws for the maintenance of the public roads and highways, without the local notice required for special or local laws. This Section shall not be construed as a limitation of powers delegated to counties, cities or towns by any other Section or Sections of this Constitution."

Sec. 2. The foregoing constitutional amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this state at an election to be held on November 11, 1967, at which election all ballots shall have printed on them the following:

"FOR the constitutional amendment allowing counties to put all county taxes into one general fund."

"AGAINST the constitutional amendment allowing counties to put all county taxes into one general fund."

Sec. 3. The governor of the State of Texas shall issue the necessary proclamation for the election, and this amendment shall be published in the manner and for the length of time as required by the constitution and

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laws of this state. Such publication of this amendment shall be limited to the publication of Sections 1 and 2 of this Resolution only.

Passed by the House on March 21, 1967: Yeas 118, Nays 23, and 1 present not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H. J. R. No. 3 on May 29, 1967: Yeas 140, Nays 0; passed by the Senate, as amended, on May 29, 1967: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Signed by the Governor June 18, 1967.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—TEXAS PARK DEVELOPMENT FUND

H. J. R. No. 12

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Texas adding a section to be known as Section 49-e of Article III, providing for the issuance and sale of bonds of the State of Texas to create the Texas Park Development Fund to provide for the acquisition of lands for State Park Sites and for developing said sites as State Parks; providing for the payment of such bonds; designating an agency to administer said Fund and to perform other duties prescribed by law; and providing for the calling of an election and the publication and issuance of the proclamation therefor.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Article III of the Constitution of Texas be amended by adding a new section thereto to be known as Section 49-e, as follows:

"Section 49-e. The Parks and Wildlife Department, or its successor vested with the powers, duties, and authority which deals with the operation, maintenance, and improvement of State Parks, shall have the authority to provide for, issue and sell general obligation bonds of the State of Texas in an amount not to exceed Seventy-Five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000). The bonds authorized herein shall be called "Texas Park Development Bonds," shall be executed in such form, denominations, and upon such terms as may be prescribed by law, provided, however, that the bonds shall bear a rate or rates of interest as may be fixed by the Parks and Wildlife Department or its successor, but the weighted average annual interest rate, as that phrase is commonly and ordinarily used and understood in the municipal bond market, of all the bonds issued and sold in any installment of any bonds, shall not exceed four and one-half percent (4½%) interest per annum; they may be issued in such installments as said Parks and Wildlife Department, or its said successor, finds feasible and practical in accomplishing the purpose set forth herein.

"All moneys received from the sale of said bonds shall be deposited in a fund hereby created with the State Treasurer to be known as the Texas Park Development Fund to be administered (without further appropriation) by the said Parks and Wildlife Department, or its said successor, in such manner as prescribed by law.

"Such fund shall be used by said Parks and Wildlife Department, or its said successor, under such provisions as the Legislature may prescribe by general law, for the purposes of acquiring lands from the United States, or any governmental agency thereof, from any governmental agency of the State of Texas, or from any person, firm, or corporation, for State Park Sites and for developing said sites as State Parks.

"While any of the bonds authorized by this provision, or any interest on any such bonds, is outstanding and unpaid, there is hereby appropriated out of the first moneys coming into the Treasury in each fiscal year, not